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LEDBURY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1954.

LEDBURY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report for the year 1954, which is furnished in accordance with Article 17, sub-section 5, of the Sanitary Officers (Outside London) Regulations 1935, and Circular 28/54 of the Ministry of Health.

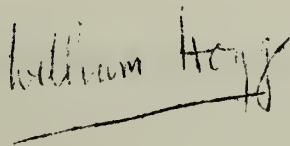
The Report deals with matters having bearing upon the health of the population. The incidence of infectious disease experienced was low, and there were no new infections of tuberculosis reported.

I have to acknowledge assistance in the preparation of this Report and throughout the year by my colleagues, Mr. D.B.W. Dykes, Clerk to the Council; Mr. A.T. Thomas, Financial Officer; Mr. J.F. Lorrimer, Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor; and Mr. K. Mills, Executive Officer.

Also, I take this opportunity of placing on record my appreciation of the support which the Chairman and Members of the Council have given me in the discharge of my duties.

I am, Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'William Hogg', with a horizontal line drawn underneath it.

Medical Officer of Health.

22nd September, 1955.

LEDBURY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

William Hogg, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., F.R.S.I.

CLERK TO THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Miss A.O. Gale

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SANITARY INSPECTOR, SANITARY SURVEYOR AND HOUSING
DESIGNATED OFFICER

Mr. J.F. Lorrimer, M.R.S.I.

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Urban Council Offices,
Church Street,
LEDBURY.

SECTION A - STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

The Urban District of Ledbury forms a small town in the south east of the County. It is a centre for the surrounding agricultural district and the town is on the main line of the railway connecting Hereford with Birmingham and Worcester. Industries in the town are agricultural engineering and fruit preserving. Catering for visitors also provides some employment.

Area in acres	...	499
Number of inhabited houses (31.12.54)...		1182
Rateable value	...	£21,514
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	£82.13.0d.
Registrar General's estimated mid-year Population.	...	3760
Area Comparability Factor (Births)	...	0.99
Area Comparability Factor (Deaths)	...	0.78

Extracts from Vital Statistics for the Year

Live Birth Rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population (crude)	...	14.9
Adjusted Live Birth Rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population	...	14.7
Still Birth Rate per 1000 total births (live and still)	...	17.5
Death Rate per 1000 estimated resident population (crude)	...	15.7
Corrected Death Rate per 1000 of estimated resident population.	...	12.2

<u>Deaths from Maternal Causes</u>		<u>Deaths</u>	<u>Rate per 1000 total births</u>
Heading No.30	Pregnancy, childbirth and abortion	Nil	Nil

Death Rates of Infants under One Year of Age

All Infants per 1000 live births	...	17.9
Legitimate Infants per 1000 legitimate live births	...	19.9
Illegitimate Infants per 1000 illegitimate live births	...	Nil

Population

The Registrar General's estimate of the resident mid-year population is 3760. Using the estimated resident population, the average number of persons per inhabited house is 3.18, and the average number of persons per acre is 7.53. The average number of inhabited houses per acre is 2.36. The natural decrease of population, that is the excess of deaths over live births is 3.

Births.

The total number of live births recorded as having occurred within the District is 56 (19 male and 37 female). The crude live birth rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population is 14.9 and using the comparability factor of 0.99 the adjusted birth rate is 14.7 per 1000 estimated resident population.

The live birth rate for England and Wales for 1954 is 15.2 per 1000 population. The ratio of male/female births is 0.56.

Only three births occurred out of wedlock. Illegitimate live births formed 5.3% of all live births, the illegitimate live birth rate being 0.8 per 1000 estimated population.

Stillbirths.

Only one stillbirth occurred and the rate is therefore 17.5 per 1000 total births. The stillbirth rate for the year for England and Wales is 24.0 per 1000 total live and still births.

Deaths.

After deducting the deaths of non-residents who died within the area, and adding the number of deaths of residents who died outside the area, the total number of deaths allocated is 59 (34 male and 25 female). In 1953 this number was 47.

The crude death rate for the area is 15.7 per 1000 estimated resident population. Using the area comparability factor of 0.78 the corrected death rate is 12.2 per 1000 resident population. The death rate for the year for England and Wales is 11.3 per 1000 population.

All forms of heart disease (headings 18, 19 and 20) caused 12 deaths, and vascular disease of the nervous system (heading No.17) caused the same number of deaths.

Cancer Deaths.

The number of deaths caused by cancer of all sites is 8 (2 male and 6 female), giving a corrected death rate for all forms of cancer of 1.66 per 1000 population. In 1953 there were 10 cancer deaths.

Deaths due to notifiable Acute Infectious Disease.

There were four deaths attributed to pneumonia and the adjusted death rate for the Urban District for this disease is 0.83 per 1000 population.

Tuberculosis.

I am glad to report that no deaths were attributed to tuberculosis.

Infant Mortality.

I am glad to report that only one infant under one year of age died, and the infant mortality rate is therefore 17.9 per 1000 live births. The infant mortality rate for England and Wales for the year is 25.5 per 1000 related live births.

Table of Causes of Death according to Sex and Mortality Rates

List No.	Cause.	Male.	Fe- male.	Per- sons.	Corrected Death Rate.
10.	Malignant Neoplasm, stomach.	-	1	1	0.21
13.	Malignant Neoplasm, uterus.	-	2	2	0.41
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms.	2	3	5	1.04
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia.	1	-	1	0.21
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system.	8	4	12	2.49
18.	Coronary disease, angina.	6	2	8	1.66
19.	Hypertension with heart Disease.	-	1	1	0.21
20.	Other heart disease.	2	1	3	0.62
21.	Other circulatory disease.	1	4	5	1.04
22.	Influenza.	-	1	1	0.21
23.	Pneumonia.	2	2	4	0.83
24.	Bronchitis.	1	1	2	0.41
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system.	1	-	1	0.21
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate.	1	-	1	0.21
32.	Other defined and ill defined diseases.	6	2	8	1.66
33.	Motor vehicle accidents.	1	-	1	0.21
34.	All other accidents.	2	1	3	0.62
All Causes.		34	25	59	12.25

SECTION B - GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

Public Health Laboratory.

The facilities available to the District at the Public Health Laboratory, Hereford, remained unchanged.

The following table shows the number of the various specimens examined at the Laboratory on behalf of the Department:-

Swabs	...	6
Milk (Methylene blue test)	...	12
Milk (Phosphatase test)	...	12
Water (Bacteriological)	...	61

In addition, one sample of water was examined by chemical methods by the Public Analysts, Messrs. Ellis & Turner.

Hospital Facilities.

General. The Ledbury Cottage Hospital has 12 beds, a surgical theatre and an x-ray apparatus. Both surgical and medical cases are admitted.

The Hospital also provides regular out-patient clinics for the following cases - Surgical, Pediatric, Ophthalmic, Ear, Nose and Throat, Antenatal, Pathology and Physiotherapy.

Infectious Disease. Accommodation is available for cases of infectious disease at the Stretton Sugwas Hospital, Hereford and the County Hospital, Hereford.

Ambulance Facilities.

A motor ambulance is maintained at the Court House Depot by the Home Ambulance Service Joint Committee of the Order of St. John and the British Red Cross Society. This functions as part of the ambulance service provided by the Local Health Authority.

Home for Aged Persons.

The County Council maintains Belle Orchard House, in Orchard Lane, as a Home for aged persons.

Clinics.

Infant Welfare. An Infant Welfare Clinic is held every alternate Tuesday afternoon, at the Church Room in Market Street.

Orthopaedic Clinic. A Specialist Clinic is held at the Court House Depot, and treatment facilities are available.

Other Specialist Clinics are held at the Ledbury Cottage Hospital.

Public Mortuary.

The Council provides a public mortuary and post mortem room for the use of the town and surrounding Rural District. Five bodies were brought to the mortuary during the year.

Disposal of the Dead. (National Assistance Act, 1948 Section 50).

One burial was carried out by the Council during the year, under this section.

Section 47, National Assistance Act, 1948 (Persons in need of Care and Protection).

No investigations were made under this section during the year.

SECTION C - SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Geology.

The town is situated on Old Red Standstone, here represented as marl with bands of sandstone. To the east of the town outcrops of upper silurian rocks occur, chiefly Ludlow and Wenlock limestones.

Water Supply.

The town is supplied chiefly by means of the Council's piped supply, although some private shallow wells remain in use as domestic supplies. These wells are not always satisfactory as sources of good potable water. The systematic sampling of wells continued. Of 32 wells supplying 62 houses, 8 were found to yield water not of potable quality. These 8 wells supplied 23 dwellings and notices were served requiring the owners to connect to the town supply. All wells within the area have been sampled within the last two years and will be kept under observation.

The Council's mains are divided into two systems; a high pressure system supplying the higher part of the town and a low pressure system for the remainder. These two systems can be connected to supply water from the high pressure to the low pressure system.

The water for the low pressure system is taken from the Conygree Reservoir (100,000 gallons capacity) and from springs in Conygree Wood. These springs are land springs dependent upon local rainfall. A chlorinator is installed.

The high pressure system obtains its water supply from the Massington Well. The water is pumped to the Cross Hands Reservoir and then gravitates to the town. Continuous automatic chlorination is applied to the rising main and automatic electric pumps have given very satisfactory service. As this supply is prone to diminish during dry periods, it is augmented from the mains of the Malvern Urban District Council. During the year the water supply was adequate. A new chlorinator was installed.

On 26 occasions samples of the town's water supply were sent for bacteriological examination; 14 of these were of water from services and all were of potable quality. The remaining 12 samples were taken from the town supply before chlorination and all except 2 were sterile on culture.

The number of dwellings connected to the water mains by means of service pipes is 979, whilst 157 dwellings are supplied by standpipes, and 70 dwellings obtain supplies from shallow wells.

The net average daily consumption of water for the Urban District during the year 1954 was 117,000 gallons. On the estimated resident population this gives an average daily consumption of 31.1 gallons per head of population. The town water does not have any appreciable solvent action upon metals.

During the year a bulk supply was made for the parish of Wellington Heath in the adjacent Ledbury Rural District.

Drainage.

The town has a system of public sewers, which function fairly satisfactorily. The sewers are of the combined type, taking storm and foul water, and connect partly to a series of crude settlement tanks and partly to the sewage disposal works. These works are obsolete and are inadequate for the proper treatment of the present quantity of sewage. As a result, the effluent passing into the river Leadon is liable to cause pollution. The Council has had a scheme for new sewage disposal works prepared by Consulting Engineers and this scheme has been submitted to the Ministry for approval.

No extensions of public sewers were constructed during the year, and no alterations were made to the existing sewage disposal works.

There were 52 new drains constructed in connection with dwelling houses. All were tested by the Sanitary Inspector.

Public Conveniences.

Public conveniences are provided in the centre of the town in Church Lane. These are suitably situated and maintained in good condition. Fifty inspections of these premises were made during the year. The need for the provision of additional public conveniences, particularly on Market Day, is under consideration by the Council.

Rivers and Streams.

The river Leadon, a tributary of the river Severn, is a boundary of the Urban District. It is a small stream which tends to flood its banks in the winter months. Such floods, at times, involve land used for irrigation at the sewage disposal works. Below the town the Leadon often shows discolouration, and fish life appears to be absent.

Closet Accommodation.

About 60% of the dwellings in the town are provided with water closets, whilst the remainder depend upon slop closets. There are approximately 1100 closets in the town; no privies are now in existence. The number of new water closets provided was 43.

Public Cleansing.

The Council undertakes a weekly collection of domestic refuse in the District. The collection is carried out by direct labour with a covered motor refuse vehicle. The Council undertakes the collection of trade refuse on payment of a special charge. The disposal of refuse is by partially controlled tipping at the town tip in Jubilee Meadows.

There are no public Baths or Washhouses situated within the area.

The Surveyor maintains the public roads in a cleanly state.

The few cesspools remaining are cleansed by the Council when required, at special charges - one cesspool was cleansed and emptied during the year.

Provision of dustbins by occupiers and owners is satisfactory at the present time.

Camping Sites.

One site was used for camping purposes during the year by members of an organisation exempt from section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

Swimming Baths.

The small open air swimming pool owned by the Council, was open to the public during the summer months, on payment. The water is taken from the town mains and a purification plant is provided. The pool has a capacity of about 54,000 gallons. This passes through the purification apparatus every six hours. A number of minor improvements and works of maintenance were carried out during the year.

One sample of water from the swimming pool was sent for examination during the year, and was found to be sterile on bacteriological examination.

Shops and Offices.

No action was necessary by the Department under the Public Health Act, 1936.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

No infestation of dwellings by bed bugs came to the notice of the Department during the year. The Council undertakes disinfection when necessary by use of a liquid insecticide.

Common Lodging Houses.

There is one common Lodging House in the town. This was inspected on two occasions and conditions found to be satisfactory. No case of infectious disease occurred on the premises during the year and no infestations were found.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

I am indebted to Mr. J.F. Lorrimer, Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor, for the following statement furnished under Article 27 (18) of the Sanitary Officers (Outside London) Regulations, 1935:-

Inspections.

Ashbins and Ashpits	...	14
Bakehouses	...	10
Burial Grounds	...	50
Camping Sites	...	1
Caravans	...	1
Common Lodging House	...	2
Dairies	...	12
Drainage	...	52
Drain Tests	...	52
Filthy and Verminous Premises	...	2
Factories (without mechanical power)	...	14
Factories with mechanical power.	...	41
Food Poisoning	...	1
Food Premises	...	40

Inspections (continued).

Housing.	...	136
Ice Cream (Registered Premises).	...	15
Infectious Disease	...	11
Public Conveniences	...	50
Petroleum Stores	...	15
Schools	...	1
Sewage Disposal Works	...	24
Sanitary Conveniences	...	50
Slaughterhouses	...	8
Stalls	...	50
Swimming Baths and Pools	...	32
Unsound Food	...	7
Water Supply	...	24

Notices Issued.

Informal	...	28
Statutory re housing	...	3
Statutory under other Acts	...	20

Summary of Defects Remedied.

Ashbins provided	...	7
Cesspools and septic tanks cleansed	...	1
Drains and Gullies cleared	...	2
Defective roofs repaired	...	4
Defective eaves gutters repaired	...	3
Defective brickwork repaired	...	1
Disinfestations	...	5
Defective chimneys repaired	...	1
New sinks provided	...	1
New Urinals provided	...	1
Wells cleansed or repaired	...	1
Water Supplies provided	...	23
Miscellaneous Defects remedied	...	3

Factories Acts, 1937 and 1948.

The number of factories with mechanical power registered with the Local Authority at the end of the year was 36, whilst the number without mechanical power was 7. The former were inspected on 41 occasions and the latter on 14 occasions. Five defects came to the notice of the Department; two being referred by H.M. Inspector of Factories. All defects related to unsuitable or defective closet accommodation. All defects were remedied before the close of the year.

Two building sites were registered with the Council under the Act.

There are no outworkers registered with the Council.

Factory Form 572 (Revised)

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health in respect of the year 1954, for the Urban District of Ledbury in the County of Hereford.

Part I of Act

1. Inspections made for the purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by the Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises	Number on Register.	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Occupiers Prosecuted.
Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	7	14	-	-
Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	36	41	5	-
Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (except outworkers' premises).	2	2	-	-
Totals	45	57	5	-

2. Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars	<u>Number of cases in which defects were found</u>			Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred. to H.M. Inspector.	by H.M. Inspector.
Sanitary Conveniences				
Unsuitable or defective	5	5	-	2

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949.

One of the Council's outdoor staff carries out the duties of Pests Officer as part of his normal work. The District is inspected regularly and treatment is carried out by the Council when necessary. The sewers are treated twice a year in accordance with the Ministry's requirements. Judged from the results obtained, the degree of infestation is low.

	Prem- ises in- spected.	No. of inspect- ions.	Total Infes- tations.	RATS		No. of Prop- erties treated.	Stat- utory Notices.
				Major	Minor		
Local Authorities' Properties.	4	16	8	-	8	8	-
Dwelling Houses.	58	116	58	-	58	58	-
Agricultural Properties.	1	2	1	-	1	1	-
All other (including business) Premises.	9	18	9	-	9	9	-
Total	72	152	76	-	76	76	-

SECTION D - HOUSING

Although good progress was made in the provision of new dwellings by the Local Authority, the demand for dwellings continued to exceed the supply. The Council completed 34 permanent houses and had 7 houses under construction at the end of the year.

Private owners completed 9 dwellings during the year and 5 were under construction at the end of the year.

The erection of more dwellings is the greatest need of the area. In addition to families without homes, there are still families housed in old and dilapidated dwellings, and families who have been temporarily housed at Mabel's Furlong.

During the year a small improvement took place in the number of dwellings overcrowded within the meaning of Section 58 of the Housing Act, 1936.

Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the Year.

1.	(a)	Total number of dwellings inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts).	...	68
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the above purpose.	...	136
2.	(a)	Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head 1a above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932.	...	Nil
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the above purpose.	...	Nil
3.		Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.	...	3
4.		Number of dwelling houses exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.	...	65

Remedy of Defects during the Year without service of Formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers.	...	78
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Action under Statutory Powers during the Year.

1.		Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.		
	(a)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs.	..	3
	(b)	Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices		
		(i) By Owners	...	3
		(ii) By Local Authority in default of Owners.	...	Nil

2.	Proceedings under Public Health Acts.		
(a)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied.	...	20
(b)	Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices		
(i)	By Owners	...	20
(ii)	By Local Authority in default of Owners.	...	Nil
3.	Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.		
(a)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made.	...	Nil
(b)	Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders.	...	Nil
4.	Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.		
(a)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made.	...	4
(b)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit.	...	Nil

Housing Act 1936 - Part IV - Overcrowding.

(a)	Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year.	...	10
(b)	Number of families dwelling therein.	...	13
(c)	Number of persons dwelling therein.	...	72
(d)	Number of cases of overcrowding reported during the year.	...	Nil
(e)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year.	...	2
(f)	Number of persons concerned in (e) above.	...	10
(g)	Dwelling houses which have again become overcrowded after steps by Local Authority for abatement.	...	Nil

Proceedings under the Housing Act, 1949.

No action was taken under this Act during the year.

SECTION E - INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk.

The number of milk distributors registered with the Council at the end of the year was six. Six licences were issued for the sale of pasteurized tuberculin tested milk and one for the sale of tuberculin tested milk. The number of dairy inspections made was twelve.

There was no evidence of disease having occurred as the result of an infected milk supply. Eleven samples of pasteurized milk were sent for methylene blue test and phosphatase test - all complied with the requirements of the tests.

The town is in a very fortunate position with respect to its milk supplies, as there is a pasteurization plant situated in Bridge Street under very capable management. All the milk passing through this plant is tuberculin tested milk and only designated milk is sold within the District. This is a most satisfactory position and the possibility of any outbreak of milk born disease is very remote.

Ice Cream.

There are no premises registered for the manufacture of ice cream within the area, but the number registered for the sale and storage of this food increased to fifteen. No action was necessary by the Department in connection with these premises, which were inspected on fifteen occasions.

Water Cress.

A small sale of this foodstuff takes place during the season. The plant grows in a number of places adjacent to the town, and is gathered and consumed without apparent ill effect, but that exposed for sale in the shops is almost always purchased from wholesale suppliers.

Shell Fish.

The sale of shell fish in the town is insignificant, and no action was necessary.

Meat.

With the ending of the control of meat, applications were received by the Council for licences to again use four former registered slaughterhouses, which had been out of use for many years. These premises were inspected and as the owners carried out the necessary work the Council granted licences for thirteen months.

These premises are not ideal, but their limitations are largely those of site, lack of space and proximity of dwellings. One slaughterhouse erected in accordance with modern ideas on a suitable site would, in my opinion, be adequate for the requirements of the trade.

Carcases inspected and condemned.

	Cattle excluding Cows.			Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
	Cows.	Cows.	Calves.		
Number killed (if known).	294	-	43	1468	1103
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis.</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	-	-	-	3	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	-	-	-	-	24
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis.	-	-	-	0.2%	2.18%
<u>Tuberculosis only:</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned. ...	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	-	-	-	-	3
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis. ...	-	-	-	-	0.27%

Slaughter of Animals Act 1933, Section 3.

Seven licences for slaughtermen were granted by the Council during the year, under this section.

Food Poisoning.

Two cases of food poisoning were notified during the second quarter of the year. These both arose as part of an outbreak in the surrounding Rural District, the infected meal possibly being a school meal infected with Welch's bacillus. This is not a very frequent cause of food poisoning.

Unsound Food.

The following list gives the amount of food found to be unfit for human consumption and voluntarily surrendered:-

<u>Quantity.</u>	<u>Food.</u>	<u>Cause of unsoundness.</u>
33 tins	Fruit	Blown Tins.
13 tins	Tinned Meat products.	" "
18 tins	Soup	" "
4 tins	Beans	" "
2 tins	Preserves.	" "
2 tins	Peas	" "
1 tin	Tomatoes	" "
4 tins	Milk	" "
2 packets	Cake Mixture	Mould.
4 packets	Dates.	"
1 tin	Fish	Blown Tin.
2 Stone	Haddock	Decomposition.
57 lbs	Beef.	Bone Taint.

All unsound food which is surrendered is buried on the Council's refuse tip.

Food and Drugs Act 1938, Section 14.

Six premises concerned with the manufacture of meat products are registered with the Council. There are, in addition, four bakeries and two fish frying establishments so registered. These premises were inspected on twenty occasions. A reasonably high standard of cleanliness of the premises was found to be maintained, with one single exception.

Byelaws as to Handling, etc. of Food.

During the year 40 inspections were made in connection with these Byelaws. All food stalls in the market place are complying as regards protection, and the markets are regularly inspected. The standard of cleanliness in the handling and wrapping of food is slowly improving.

SECTION F - PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASE

<u>Confirmed Cases of Infectious Disease in each Quarter</u>					
<u>Disease.</u>	<u>1st</u> <u>Quarter.</u>	<u>2nd</u> <u>Quarter.</u>	<u>3rd</u> <u>Quarter.</u>	<u>4th</u> <u>Quarter.</u>	<u>Year.</u>
Poliomyelitis (non-paralytic).	-	1	-	-	1
Whooping Cough.	1	-	1	10	12
Pneumonia.	-	-	1	-	1
All Diseases.	1	1	2	10	14

The Urban District was almost entirely free from notifiable infectious disease until the commencement of the fourth quarter of the year, when there was an increased prevalence of whooping cough.

The only acute infectious diseases notified were pneumonia, poliomyelitis and whooping cough. The Urban District was free from diphtheria, enteric fevers and measles throughout the year. The incidence of acute notifiable infectious disease being 3.7 per 1000 estimated population.

Whooping Cough.

This was the most common notifiable disease, 12 notifications being received, of which 10 arose in the final quarter. The incidence rate was 3.2 per 1000 estimated population. All the patients were children under 10 years of age with one single exception. Ten households were involved; two dwellings each experienced two cases. There were no deaths caused by whooping cough.

Acute Poliomyelitis.

One case of the non-paralytic form of the disease was notified. The incidence is therefore 0.26 per 1000 population.

Pneumonia.

Only one case of pneumonia was notified, although four deaths were attributed to this disease, giving a corrected death rate of 0.83 per 1000 population from this cause.

Other infections.

In January, cases of gastro-enteritis in infants and young children began to occur. This increased in prevalence through February and maximum incidence occurred in March. Thereafter the disease disappeared. Investigation gave no positive findings but the nature of spread of the disease was very suggestive of an infectious condition.

Infectious Disease according to certain Age Groups.

Disease.	0+	1+	3+	5+	10+	15+	25+	45+	65+	All Ages.
Acute Poliomyelitis.	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Whooping Cough.	-	3	3	5	1	-	-	-	-	12
Pneumonia.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
All Diseases	-	3	3	5	1	-	1	1	-	14

Tuberculosis.

At the beginning of the year there were 28 cases on the register (26 respiratory and 2 non-respiratory). During the year 1 case of non-respiratory disease was added to the register and 1 case of non-respiratory disease was removed from the register. At the end of the year, therefore, the number on the register was unchanged.

No deaths were attributed to tuberculosis.

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